Diesel Loco Wheels

3563. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number and cost of Diesel Loco Wheels;

(b) whether Durgapur or Yelhanka wheel plants can produce D.L. wheels; and

(c) if so, the investment for Indian wheel plants is required to produce diesel loco wheels in India?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PAWSWAN) : (a) (i) Approximate annual requirement of BG loco wheels is — 22000 nos. and the total value is Rs. 58 crores (approx.).

(ii) Approximate annual requirement of MG loco wheels is — 1700 nos. and the total value is Rs. 4 crores (approx.).

(b) Loco wheels are produced by Durgapur Steel Plant in small quantity. They supplied 597 wheels in 96-97. As per specification these wheels are required to be manufactured by forging and rolling process. Yelhanka wheel plant does not have this technology.

(c) Development of an alternate source is under consideration.

Non-Refundable Charges In Doordarshan

3564. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION and BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan is charging a non-refundable amount of Rs. 5000/- from the producers/copy right-holders of national award winning feature films as consideration of telecasting the same at the National Channel;

(b) whether the Doordarshan is not informing the producers/copy right-holders about the fate of their applications particularly in case of rejection; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) Since April, 1997 Doordarshan has started charging Rs. 5000/- as processing fee alongwith fresh applications of feature films for consideration of their telecast on the National Network.

(b) and (c) As a matter of policy, reasons of rejection of proposals at the concept stage are not intimated to the producers/copy right-holders.

Extension of Rail Line upto Dangori

3565. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for extension of railway line from Makum to Dangori in Tinsukia district of Assam was conceded and declared by his Ministry during the last week of May, 1997;

(b) if so, the status of the project and the time by which it is likely to be commissioned;

(c) whether survey for this 30 km stretch was completed during the Eighth Plan period;

(d) the status of the gauge conversion of Rangia-Murkong Selek portion of the Northeast Frontier Railway; and

(e) the reasons for delay in the survey of the said segment?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) A metro gauge railway line already exists from Makum to Dangori in Tinsukia district. The question, it is presumed, relates to the conversion of this section to broad gauge. The conversion work has been sanctioned and would be taken up later this year after completion of the Mariani-Furkating and Simalguri-Moranhat branch line sections of NF Railway. The work would be completed in the financial year 1998-99.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The survey for gauge conversion of Rangia-Murkong Selek has been taken up.

(e) There has been no delay. The section is considerably long (523 kms). NF Railway has a sizeable survey work load as a result of the Govt.'s policy to develop railway network in the NE region. The survey is expected to be completed during the calendar year 1998.

Cost of Pantograph

3566. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of imported pantograph as well as indigenous pantograph;

(b) whether all ABB engines pantograph have been replaced by indigenous pantograph;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the fate of imported pantographs?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The cost of imported pantograph provided on ABB locomotives is 40,000 Swiss Francs excluding import duties and the cost of indigenous pantograph provided on CLW built locomotives is Rs. 65,000/- excluding duties/taxes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Initially 52 Secheron make imported pantographs were provided on 10 passenger and 16 freight ABB locomotives. As a result of some problems faced on imported pantographs, 15 imported pantographs have been replaced by indigenous pantographs. The balance 37 imported

pantographs continue to be in service. ABB have since carried out modification of 9 imported pantographs which are on service trials and the performance is being monitored.

Government Directives for Defective Telephones

3567. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any directives has been issued by the Government in regard to set the defective telephones right within two days after receipt of complaints and if the defect is not removed in a week, then the rent for such period should not be charged from the subscribers; and

(b) if so, details of such telephones in Jammu of which the defect have not been removed for more than a week during the period of January 1997 to June 1997?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes Sir, as per existing instructions faulty telephones should be set right within 40 hours of the complaints.

Rebate in rentals is admissible when local telephone services remain interrupted/suspended continuously for 7 days or more due to departmental reasons.

(b) Month-wise details of telephones in Jammu which remained faulty for more than 7 days during Jan'97 to June'97 are given as below:-

Month	No. of telephones remained faulty for more than 7 days
January 97	201
February 97	153
March 97	492
April 97	369
May 97	171
June 97	147
Total	1533

Construction of Unauthorised Stalls

3568. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that unauthorised stalls are constructed on the level-crossings of the local stations in Howrah and Sealdah Divisions of Eastern Railway which is the restricted zone for constructing any structure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these structures are obstructing the vicinity and thus causing accidents; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard to avoid accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are such constructions mainly at some of the level crossings adjacent to suburban stations in Sealdah and Howrah Divisions of Eastern Railway.

(c) No accident occurred in Sealdah and Howrah Divisions of Eastern Railway due to obstruction by unauthorised construction at level crossings.

(d) Action to remove the unauthorised structures is taken under Public premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 which is a continuous process.

Extension of Niambur-Shoranur Push Pull Train

3569. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding the extension of the Nilambur-Shoranur Push Pull train from Shoranur upto Palghat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) Some representations have been received in this regard. However there is no proposal at present to extend Nilambur-Shoranur DMU train upto Palghat due to certain operational constraints.

Coverage of Swaran Jayanti Rathyatra

3570. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any coverage to Shri L.K. Advani's Swaran Jayanti Rathyatra has been telecast and broadcast;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government adopts the same policy about the activities of other political parties; and

(d) if so, the details of the policy being followed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Both All India Radio and Doordarshan adequately covered the Swaran Jayanti Rathayatra undertaken by the B.J.P. President, Shri L.K. Advani in their national as well as regional bulletins.

(b) Such information is not kept centrally in a compiled form.